

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus, adaptable to a wheelchair, for assisting a person seated in the wheelchair to move to a standing position, the apparatus comprising:

a. a seat having a seat portion hinged to a back portion, the seat portion having a front end and an underside, the front end being hingedly attachable to a wheelchair;

b. at least one lift bar having an upper end and a lower end, the upper end being pivotally attached to the underside of the seat portion;

c. at least one foot actuated member having a first end pivotally attached to the lower end of a lift bar, a middle section pivotally attachable to the wheelchair, and a second end suitably disposed for engagement by a foot of a person standing adjacent to the wheelchair,

whereby a person depressing said second end of the foot actuated member causes the first end of the foot actuated member to rise, pivoting about its middle section attached to the wheelchair, thereby raising the lift bar and the attached seat portion from a sitting position to a substantially flat position so that a person sitting in the seat is likewise lifted from a seated position to a partially standing position.

2. The apparatus in claim 1, wherein the number of foot actuated members is two, the first of which is attachable such that its second end is disposed toward the front of the wheelchair, and the second of which is attachable such that its second end is disposed toward the rear of the wheelchair,

whereby a person standing adjacent to the front of the wheelchair can engage the first foot actuated member, and a person standing adjacent to the rear of the wheelchair can engage the second foot actuated member.

3. The apparatus in claim 1, wherein the foot actuated member is substantially U-shaped, having the U-shaped end as its second end being of suitable width to be engaged by a person's foot, and having its second end comprised of the dual arms of the

U, each of which is pivotally attached to the lower end of a lift bar.

4. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a slip resistant coating being applied to the second end of the foot actuated member.

5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the seat portion is joined to the back portion with a piano hinge.

6. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the seat portion is joined to the back portion with a strong fabric.

7. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a seat cushion attached to the seat portion, and a back cushion attached to the back portion.

8. An apparatus in combination with a wheelchair, for assisting a person seated in the wheelchair to move to a standing position, the apparatus comprising:

a. a seat having a seat portion hinged to a back portion, the seat portion having a front end and an underside, the front end being hingedly attached to the wheelchair;

b. at least one lift bar having an upper end and a lower end, the upper end being pivotally attached to the underside of the seat portion;

c. at least one foot actuated member having a first end pivotally attached to the lower end of a lift bar, a middle section pivotally attached to the wheelchair, and a second end suitably disposed for engagement by a foot of a person standing adjacent to the wheelchair,

whereby a person depressing said second end of the foot actuated member causes the first end of the foot actuated member to rise, pivoting about its middle section attached to the wheelchair, thereby raising the lift bar and the attached seat portion from a sitting position to a substantially flat position so that a person sitting in the seat is likewise lifted from a seated position to a partially standing position.

9. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the number of foot actuated members is two, the first of which is attached such that its second end is disposed toward the front of the wheelchair, and the second of which is attached such that its second end is disposed toward the rear of the wheelchair,

whereby a person standing adjacent to the front of the wheelchair can engage the first foot actuated member, and a person standing adjacent to the rear of the wheelchair can engage the second foot actuated member.

10. The apparatus in claim 8, wherein the foot actuated member is substantially U-shaped, having the U-shaped end as its second end being of suitable width to be engaged by a person's foot, and having its second end comprised of the dual arms of the U, each of which is pivotally attached to the lower end of a lift bar.

11. The apparatus of claim 8, further comprising a slip resistant coating being applied to the second end of the foot actuated member.

12. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the seat portion is joined to the back portion with a piano hinge.

13. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the seat portion is joined to the back portion with a strong fabric.

14. The apparatus of claim 8, further comprising a seat cushion attached to the seat portion, and a back cushion attached to the back portion.

15. An apparatus in combination with a wheelchair, for assisting a person seated in the wheelchair to move to a standing position, the apparatus comprising:

a. a seat having a rigid seat portion hinged to a rigid back portion, the seat portion having a front end and an

underside, the front end being hingedly attached to the wheelchair;

b. a seat bracket fixedly attached to the underside of the seat portion;

c. a first pair of lift bars, each having an upper end and a lower end;

d. a second pair of lift bars, each having an upper end and a lower end;

e. a first pivotal attachment means for pivotally attaching the upper end of the first pair of lift bars to the seat bracket;

f. a second pivotal attachment means for pivotally attaching the upper end of the second pair of lift bars to the seat bracket;

g. a first rigid foot actuated member having a forward portion suitably disposed and shaped for being depressed by the foot of a person standing adjacent to the front of the wheelchair, said first rigid foot actuated member having a pair of substantially parallel arms suitably spaced apart and each extending rearwardly to a position adjacent to the lower end of the first pair of lift bars;

h. a second rigid foot actuated member having a rearward portion suitably disposed and shaped for being depressed by the foot of a person standing adjacent to the rear of the wheelchair, said second rigid foot actuated member having a pair of substantially parallel arms suitably spaced apart and each extending forwardly to a position adjacent to the lower end of the second pair of lift bars;

i. a third pivotal attachment means for pivotally attaching the ends of the rearwardly extending substantially parallel arms of the first rigid foot actuated member to the lower end of the first pair of lift bars;

j. a fourth pivotal attachment means for pivotally attaching the ends of the forwardly extending substantially parallel arms of the second rigid foot actuated member to the lower end of the second pair of lift bars;

k. a fifth pivotal attachment means for pivotally attaching the first rigid foot actuated member to the wheelchair; and

1. a sixth pivotal attachment means for pivotally attaching the second rigid foot actuated member to the wheelchair,

whereby a person standing adjacent to the front of the wheelchair can depress the first foot actuated member, and a person standing adjacent to the rear of the wheelchair can depress the second foot actuated member, thereby raising the lift bars and the attached seat portion from a sitting position to a substantially flat position so that a person sitting in the seat is likewise lifted from a seated position to a partially standing position.

16. The apparatus of claim 15, further comprising a slip resistant coating being applied to the forward portion of the first rigid foot actuated member.

17. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the seat portion is joined to the back portion with a piano hinge

18. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the seat portion is joined to the back portion with a strong fabric.

19. The apparatus of claim 15, further comprising a seat cushion attached to the seat portion, and a back cushion attached to the back portion.